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Heirs of Captain Samuel Ransom.

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Report No. 823.

[To accompany H. R. bill No. 640.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

HEIRS OF CAPTAIN SAMUEL RANSOM.

AUGUST 8, 1848.

Mr. BUTLER, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of Captain Samuel Ransom, deceased, report:

That the petitioners claim seven years' half pay due Captain Samuel Ransom, who was an officer in the war of the revolution and killed at the battle of Wyoming, on the 3d day of July, 1778. It appears on the records of Congress, volume one, page 453, of the journal, that Congress, on the 23d August, 1776: *Resolved*, That two companies on the *continental establishment* be raised in the town of Westmoreland, and stationed in proper places for the defence of the inhabitants of said town and parts adjacent, till further orders of Congress; the commissioned officers of the said two companies to be immediately appointed by Congress. On the 26th day of August, 1776, Congress proceeded to the election of officers, when Jonathan Dayton was elected regimental paymaster of Colonel Dayton's regiment; Robert Durkee and *Samuel Ransom*, captains of the two companies ordered to be raised in the town of Westmoreland; James Willis and Perrin Ross, first lieutenants; Asahel Buck and Simon Spaulding, second lieutenants; and Heman Swift and Matthias Hollenback, ensigns of said companies. Other resolutions show that these companies were on the *continental establishment* and were furnished with supplies. Finally, on the 12th of December, 1776, the following resolve was passed, viz: "*Resolved*, That the two companies raised in the town of Westmoreland be ordered to join General Washington with all possible

expedition." They did join General Washington's army, and were in the engagement at the Millstone, in January, 1777. They continued with the continental army until the threatened invasion of the Wyoming valley by the British and Indians was about to take place, when they hastened to the defence of their families and homes. Some of them arrived in time to participate in the bloody fight of July 3, 1778, on the plains of Wyoming, and many of them, among whom was Captain Ransom, lost their lives in the battle. These companies having been raised by Congress and placed on the continental establishment, the officers having been elected by Congress, having served in the continental army, and been killed in battle with the common enemy, are, in the opinion of the committee, entitled to the benefits of all the resolves and promises made by Congress to the most favored of the revolutionary officers and soldiers. It appears, too, that neither the seven years' half pay, or the five years' commutation, have ever been paid to Captain Ransom, or to any one in his right. The committee, therefore, are of the opinion, that the heirs and legal representatives are entitled to seven years' half pay due to Samuel Ransom, as a captain on the continental establishment, and report a bill accordingly.

REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of Captain Samuel Ransom, deceased, for the following

That the petitioners claim seven years' half pay due Captain Samuel Ransom who was an officer in the war of the revolution and killed at the battle of Wyoming, on the 3d day of July, 1778. It appears on the records of Congress, volume one, page 403, that Congress, on the 23d August, 1776: Resolved, "That two companies on the continental establishment be raised in the town of Westmoreland, and stationed in proper places for the defence of the inhabitants of said town and parts adjacent; the officers of Congress; the commissioned officers of the army to be immediately appointed by Congress. On the 1st of August, 1776, Congress proceeded to the election of John Johnston Barton was elected regimental paymaster & Robert Barker and Samuel Ross and James' regiment, Robert Barker and Samuel Ross and James' regiment ordered to be raised in the town of Westmoreland, James' Willis and Pervis Ross, first lieutenants; James' Spaulding, second lieutenants; and James' and Matthew Hellenback, ensigns of said companies. Other witnesses show that these companies were on the continental establishment and were furnished with supplies. Finally, on the 11th of December, 1776, the following resolve was passed: "Resolved, That the two companies raised in the town of Westmoreland be ordered to join General Washington with all possible